OAR Box 1194

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42 May Street
Rochester, NY 14620 A-96-16

October 26, 1990

William K. Reilly, Administrator Environmental Protection Agency Washington, DC 20460

Dear Mr. Reilly:

I understand that Ethyl Corporation has applied to have methylcyclopentadienyl manganese tricarbonyl (MMT) approved as a gasoline additive. I hope that you will reject this application.

We don't know enough yet about the long-term effects of MMT. We do know that manganese is a neurotoxin in large doses. MMT should not be approved until there is clear scientific evidence that it is safe. The claimed benefits of MMT are far too small to outweigh the potential health hazards.

It is indeed ironic that Ethyl Corporation, the same company that introduced the now-discredited lead additives, is applying to use MMT. Considering their track record with lead, and their claims that lead was not harmful, we should be doubly suspicious of the MMT application.

Please reject the application to use MMT as a gasoline additive until such time as there is conclusive evidence that MMT is safe.

Sincerely,